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U.S. REDUCES FUNDS ON OFFICE FURNITURE

WASHINGTON (UPI) — That prized status symbol, an "executive-type" desk, will henceforth be harder to get in Federal agencies.

An economy order by Lawson B. Knott, Jr., head of the General Services Administration, decrees that costly executive office furnishings may be supplied in the future only for a comparative handful of officials in civil service grade 18 and above, and their equals in other civilian and military government jobs.

Before the new order was is-

sued, G.S.A. spokesmen said, executive-type furniture could be ordered for officials in grade 15 or above.

It is not known how much money the Government will save under the new austerity in-furniture order, but officials predict the amount will be "substantial."

There was no estimate, either, of the number of officials who might be affected. But civil service commission records indicated that as of June, 1965, the 1.1 million classified civil service employees counted in Federal employment totals included 18,509 in grades 15 through 17, plus 313 in grade 18 and between 450-500 in higher-ranking appointive jobs.